

Hello,

Thank you for helping to give our kids an incredible future. My boys are in the public school system and I wouldn't have it any other way.

I'm writing in reference to House Bill 4390. I'm not in support of this bill, but I do support some of the spirit behind it.

HB has the potential to reduce economics exposure for our students, and it's not needed. A course in "Personal Economics" can be already be taught and comply with the requirements for financial literacy to be applied toward the math credits – and be taught by an economics teacher.

There is no reason to pass a bill that would take away from the only ½ credit required for a complete economics course, when there is already framework for "personal economics" to be taught under the math requirements.

I hope children receive financial education throughout their school experience and that we continue to make strides in the quality of the delivery and exposure so that no child misses an opportunity to learn lifelong money related lessons.

These are some thoughts I hope you consider:

- House Bill 4390 originated under the premise that there was 1 required credit of Economics which would allow for 2 separate economics classes. The proposal was that a student could choose to take one of those classes in personal finance to satisfy ½ credit of economics. Representative Tedder's website still acknowledges this on his first audio in a line of four to describe the bill - <http://gophouse.org/36756/>. Please note that the text above the audio was changed, but the audio link reflects the error in the bill's design.
- There is only ½ credit of economics required, not 1 full credit. Which means that with the passage of this bill, a student could elect to take the personal finance course to cover their economics obligation and never receive a full economics lesson experience.
- This link www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Classes_Taught_396034_7.doc shows that Personal Finance can be taught under a number of departments, including Economics and satisfy math requirements.
- The Bill 4390 references section 1165 which addresses Financial Education Programs, specifically encouraging schools to incorporate financial education throughout the curriculum for grades K to 12. I agree with this and believe much of the platform is in place to accomplish this without the risk of sacrificing other education. I believe we can improve by first working within the framework of the existing laws and better our knowledge of what already exists, what resources are provided for teachers to succeed in their pursuit of financial education and how to best mobilize for future success.

I don't believe that this bill, 4390, is the right approach and I fear that it could have unintended consequences. I'd defer specifics on what potential negatives could exist to people like Derek D'Angelo with the MCEE.

Thank you for considering financial education opportunities for our youth. I believe the best approach is to form a counsel to discover what financial education levels currently exist within our state and

formulate a plan that can better accomplish youth embracing great monetary skills and still experience robust and dedicated economics lessons. I'm more than to help serve on that council.

Here's a simple solution for HB 4390 – instead of changing the course of economics lessons and in some cases, the lack thereof, for our students for years to come – simply ensure that the specific class inspiring this bill “Personal Economics” satisfies the 7 requirements for personal finance, and then let it be applied toward the math credits as the laws currently stand.

No new law, and no unintended consequences.

Please feel free to email me or call my cell phone – 248-765-2026 if you'd like further discussion.

Thank You,

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Bringing Financial Literacy to Every Student in Michigan